HIDALGO COUNTY
EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
NOTICE AND AGENDA

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, that a **Regular Meeting** of the Board of Commissioners of **Hidalgo County Emergency Services District No. 2**, will be held on **Thursday January 22, 2026 at 12:00 P.M.** at the **Monte Alto Recreation Center, 25164 FM 88, Monte Alto Texas 78538.** Discussions relating to the following business will be transacted.

MINUTES

1. Call meeting to order. **Board president Jason Pena opened the meeting at 12:04 PM.**

2. Roll call **Members present were Jason Pena, Anna Flores, Robert Escobar and Marlene Hinojosa. Also present were Shellie Smith, legal counsel, Tony Sandoval, CEO, Bryan Hathorn, Operations Officer, Robert Mcginnis, chief of police for the city of Elsa, Rafael Gutierrez, Elsa Volunteer Fire Department, Joel Quintania, Caso Law Firm, Pepe Caso, Caso Law Firm, Johnny Cordero, Skyline EMS, Joseph Martinez, Skyline EMS and Alonzo Arcenio, Edcouch Fire Department.**

3. Pledge of allegiance **The pledge of allegiance was led by Tony Sandoval**

4. Invocation **The invocation was given by Tony Sandoval**

5. Public Forum/Public Comments **No one signed up for open forum.**

6. **CONSENT AGENDA. Robert Escobar made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Marlene Hinojosa and it passed unanimously.**
   a. Approval of Minutes for the meeting of August 6, 2025
   b. Approval of Minutes for the meeting of August 21, 2025
   c. Approval of Minutes for the meeting of September 4, 2025
   d. Approval of Financials
   e. Approval of Bills to Pay

7. **REPORTS**

8. Report by Mercedes Fire Department. **There was no report given**

9. Report by Skyline. **Board president Jason Pena then recognized Johnny Cordero who gave a brief report on Skyline's operations. He stated that they had made 253 calls in December and they had 3 to 4 units in operation. That everything was in good shape.**

10. Presentation by Caso Law firm on grants. **Board president Jason Pena then recognized Pepe Caso with the Caso Law Firm. Mr. Caso then informed the board that the Methodist Healthcare Ministries had notified him that they had awarded a $400,000.00 grant to Hidalgo County Emergency Services District No. 2. He also stated that over the next 6 months we would be having a series of meetings to outline our obligations. Also including that an additional $15,000.00 would be given to help defray travel or other expenses for these meetings. He stated that this was a major step forward in meeting our goals for our ambulance service.**

11. Presentation by Mr. Noey Villarreal on the creation of a fire department for Hargill. **Mr. Villarreal was unable to attend so no report was given.**

12. Delta Area Fire Department Reports

a. Elsa Fire Department **Jason Pena then recognized Rafael Gutierres who gave a brief report. He stated that they had made about 40 calls in December and had provided mutual aid to Monte Alto Fire Department. On their revenue he stated that they had received a lump sum payment of $250,000.00 from the county of Hidalgo.**

b. Edcouch Fire Department **Alonzo Arcenio was then recognized who gave his report stating that they had bought an ATV to help with the brush fires, that 30 to 40 calls had been made in December. He also stated that they had received 180 to 190 thousand dollars as a lump sum payment from the Hidalgo County.**

c. Monte Alto Fire Department **No report was given**

d. La Villa Fire Department **No report was given.**

13. **ACTION ITEMS**

14. Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action to appoint an external auditor to audit the district for the year ended December 31, 2025. **Board president Jason Pena then recognized Tony Sandoval for this item. He recommended that the auditing firm of Garcia and Pena be appointed to conduct the yearly audit. Robert Escobar then made a motion to appoint the Garcia and Pena auditing firm. The motion was seconded by Anna Flores and it passed unanimously.**

15. Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action to extend the current contract for Dr. Carlos Palacios. **Board president then recognized Tony Sandoval for this item. He explained to the board that the current contract for the medical director was due to expire the following month. Robert Escobar then made a motion to extend the medical director's contract for 2 years at the same rate of $950.00 per month plus $200.00 per month to cover medical malpractice liability insurance. The motion was seconded by Marlene Hinojosa and it passed unanimously.**

16. Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action to authorize Bryan Hathorn to acquire a storage unit to house the district's ambulances. **Jason Pena then recognized Bryan Hathorn who gave a brief report. He stated that the ambulances were currently being housed at a mechanics' shop in Mercedes but that he was going to try to get permission to store at a county warehouse in Edinburg. He also added that it was more important to find a storage facility for the equipment that had already been bought. Robert Escobar made a motion to authorize Bryan Hathorn to search for a suitable facility and bring the matter back to the board for formal action. Marlene Hinojosa seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

17. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

CLOSED SESSION The board did not convene in executive session.
The Board of Commissioners may go into Executive Session at any time pursuant to Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, and Sections 551.071, 551.072, and 551.074 for discussion.

OPEN SESSION

18. Adjournment **There being no further business a motion was made by Robert Escobar to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Anna Flores and it passed unanimously. The board adjourned at 12:41 PM**

Agenda Items may be considered, deliberated and/or acted upon in a different order than numbered above. The Board of Commissioners of Hidalgo County Emergency Services District No. 2 reserves the right to adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the items listed on this agenda as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act.

Passed and approved on this 18th day of March 2026.

Jason Pena, President